

CLAIMS

1. A pallet changer for changing a pallet of a machine tool, said machine tool comprising a spindle supported so as to be rotatable about a horizontal axis for mounting a tool at the forward end thereof, and a table or a pallet mount facing the front of said spindle for mounting a pallet on a vertical surface perpendicular to the axis of said spindle, said machine tool machining a workpiece fixed on said pallet with said tool by moving said tool and said table relative to each other, said pallet changer characterized by comprising:

a pallet support member disposed adjacent to said table or said pallet mount and adapted to be rotationally indexed about a vertical axis, said pallet support member having at least two vertical pallet mounting surfaces on each of which said pallet can be removably mounted; and

a pallet moving means for moving and transferring said pallet in a vertical position between said table or said pallet mount and said pallet support member.

2. The pallet changer according to claim 1, wherein said pallet support member is arranged in the extension of said table or said pallet mount in the horizontal direction perpendicular to the spindle axis, and wherein said pallet mounting surface, on the side of said pallet support member where said pallet moves, is arranged in parallel to said pallet mounting surface of said table or said pallet mount.